CHAPTER 2017-53

House Bill No. 243

An act relating to public records; amending s. 119.071, F.S.; providing an exemption from public records requirements for the personal identifying and location information of certain nonsworn investigative personnel of the Office of Financial Regulation and the names and personal identifying and location information of the spouses and children of such personnel; providing for future review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section 119.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

119.071 General exemptions from inspection or copying of public records.—

(4) AGENCY PERSONNEL INFORMATION.—

(d)1. For purposes of this paragraph, the term “telephone numbers” includes home telephone numbers, personal cellular telephone numbers, personal pager telephone numbers, and telephone numbers associated with personal communications devices.

2.a.(I) The home addresses, telephone numbers, social security numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of active or former sworn or civilian law enforcement personnel, including correctional and correctional probation officers, personnel of the Department of Children and Families whose duties include the investigation of abuse, neglect, exploitation, fraud, theft, or other criminal activities, personnel of the Department of Health whose duties are to support the investigation of child abuse or neglect, and personnel of the Department of Revenue or local governments whose responsibilities include revenue collection and enforcement or child support enforcement; the home addresses, telephone numbers, social security numbers, photographs, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1).

(II) The names of the spouses and children of active or former sworn or civilian law enforcement personnel and the other specified agency personnel identified in sub-sub-subparagraph (I) are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

(III) Sub-sub-subparagraph (II) is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2018, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
(IV) The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former nonsworn investigative personnel of the Department of Financial Services whose duties include the investigation of fraud, theft, workers’ compensation coverage requirements and compliance, other related criminal activities, or state regulatory requirement violations; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This sub-sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2021, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

(V) The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former nonsworn investigative personnel of the Office of Financial Regulation’s Bureau of Financial Investigations whose duties include the investigation of fraud, theft, other related criminal activities, or state regulatory requirement violations; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This sub-sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2022, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

b. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of firefighters certified in compliance with s. 633.408; the home addresses, telephone numbers, photographs, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such firefighters; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such firefighters are exempt from s. 119.07(1).

c. The home addresses, dates of birth, and telephone numbers of current or former justices of the Supreme Court, district court of appeal judges, circuit court judges, and county court judges; the home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of current or former justices and judges; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of current or former justices and judges are exempt from s. 119.07(1).

d.(I) The home addresses, telephone numbers, social security numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former state attorneys, assistant state attorneys, statewide prosecutors, or assistant statewide prosecutors; the home addresses, telephone numbers, social security numbers, photographs, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of current or former state attorneys, assistant state attorneys, statewide prosecutors, or assistant statewide prosecutors; and
the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the
children of current or former state attorneys, assistant state attorneys,
statewide prosecutors, or assistant statewide prosecutors are exempt from s.
119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

(II) The names of the spouses and children of current or former state
attorneys, assistant state attorneys, statewide prosecutors, or assistant
statewide prosecutors are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the
State Constitution.

(III) Sub-sub-subparagraph (II) is subject to the Open Government
Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed
on October 2, 2018, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through
reenactment by the Legislature.

e. The home addresses, dates of birth, and telephone numbers of general
magistrates, special magistrates, judges of compensation claims, adminis-
trative law judges of the Division of Administrative Hearings, and child
support enforcement hearing officers; the home addresses, telephone
numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and
children of general magistrates, special magistrates, judges of compensation
claims, administrative law judges of the Division of Administrative Hear-
ings, and child support enforcement hearing officers; and the names and
locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of general
magistrates, special magistrates, judges of compensation claims, adminis-
trative law judges of the Division of Administrative Hearings, and child
support enforcement hearing officers are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.
24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if the general magistrate, special
magistrate, judge of compensation claims, administrative law judge of the
Division of Administrative Hearings, or child support hearing officer
provides a written statement that the general magistrate, special magis-
trate, judge of compensation claims, administrative law judge of the Division
of Administrative Hearings, or child support hearing officer has made
reasonable efforts to protect such information from being accessible through
other means available to the public.

f. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photo-
graphs of current or former human resource, labor relations, or employee
relations directors, assistant directors, managers, or assistant managers of
any local government agency or water management district whose duties
include hiring and firing employees, labor contract negotiation, adminis-
tration, or other personnel-related duties; the names, home addresses,
telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses
and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of schools and
day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt
from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

g. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photo-
graphs of current or former code enforcement officers; the names, home
addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of
the spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of
schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel are
exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

h. The home addresses, telephone numbers, places of employment, dates
of birth, and photographs of current or former guardians ad litem, as defined
in s. 39.820; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,
and places of employment of the spouses and children of such persons; and
the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the
children of such persons are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of
the State Constitution, if the guardian ad litem provides a written statement
that the guardian ad litem has made reasonable efforts to protect such
information from being accessible through other means available to the
public.

i. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photo-
graphs of current or former juvenile probation officers, juvenile probation
supervisors, detention superintendents, assistant detention superinten-
dents, juvenile justice detention officers I and II, juvenile justice detention
officer supervisors, juvenile justice residential officers, juvenile justice
residential officer supervisors I and II, juvenile justice counselors, juvenile
justice counselor supervisors, human services counselor administrators,
senior human services counselor administrators, rehabilitation therapists,
and social services counselors of the Department of Juvenile Justice; the
names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of
employment of spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and
locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such
personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State
Constitution.

j. (I) The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and
photographs of current or former public defenders, assistant public
defenders, criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, and assistant
criminal conflict and civil regional counsel; the home addresses, telephone
numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and
children of such defenders or counsel; and the names and locations of schools
and day care facilities attended by the children of such defenders or counsel
are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

   (II) The names of the spouses and children of the specified agency
personnel identified in sub-sub-subparagraph (I) are exempt from s.
119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This sub-sub-
subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in
accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2019,
unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the
Legislature.

k. The home addresses, telephone numbers, and photographs of current
or former investigators or inspectors of the Department of Business and
Professional Regulation; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers,
and places of employment of the spouses and children of such current or former investigators and inspectors; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such current or former investigators and inspectors are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if the investigator or inspector has made reasonable efforts to protect such information from being accessible through other means available to the public. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2017, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

l. The home addresses and telephone numbers of county tax collectors; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such tax collectors; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such tax collectors are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if the county tax collector has made reasonable efforts to protect such information from being accessible through other means available to the public. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2017, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

m. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former personnel of the Department of Health whose duties include, or result in, the determination or adjudication of eligibility for social security disability benefits, the investigation or prosecution of complaints filed against health care practitioners, or the inspection of health care practitioners or health care facilities licensed by the Department of Health; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if the personnel have made reasonable efforts to protect such information from being accessible through other means available to the public. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2019, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

n. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former impaired practitioner consultants who are retained by an agency or current or former employees of an impaired practitioner consultant whose duties result in a determination of a person’s skill and safety to practice a licensed profession; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such consultants or their employees; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such consultants or employees are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if a consultant or employee has made reasonable
efforts to protect such information from being accessible through other means available to the public. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2020, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

o. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former emergency medical technicians or paramedics certified under chapter 401; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such emergency medical technicians or paramedics; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such emergency medical technicians or paramedics are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if the emergency medical technicians or paramedics have made reasonable efforts to protect such information from being accessible through other means available to the public. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2021, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

p. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former personnel employed in an agency’s office of inspector general or internal audit department whose duties include auditing or investigating waste, fraud, abuse, theft, exploitation, or other activities that could lead to criminal prosecution or administrative discipline; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if the personnel have made reasonable efforts to protect such information from being accessible through other means available to the public. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2021, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

3. An agency that is the custodian of the information specified in subparagraph 2. and that is not the employer of the officer, employee, justice, judge, or other person specified in subparagraph 2. shall maintain the exempt status of that information only if the officer, employee, justice, judge, other person, or employing agency of the designated employee submits a written request for maintenance of the exemption to the custodial agency.

4. The exemptions in this paragraph apply to information held by an agency before, on, or after the effective date of the exemption.

5. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this paragraph, this paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in
accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2017, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity to exempt from public records requirements the home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former nonsworn investigative personnel of the Office of Financial Regulation's Bureau of Financial Investigations whose duties include the investigation of fraud, theft, other related criminal activities, or state regulatory requirement violations; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel. The efforts of such personnel can lead to arrests and prosecutions for crimes up to and including first degree felony violations and can also result in the loss of commerce and property, the assessment of monetary fines, or the suspension or loss of professional licenses. The office has documented multiple compelling instances of such personnel being threatened and fearing repercussions as a result of carrying out their duties. These threats have included weapons being brandished, verbal threats made to harm them or their family members, harassment, and intimidation. The Legislature finds that the release of such personal identifying and location information might place these nonsworn investigative personnel of the office and their family members in danger of physical and emotional harm from disgruntled individuals who have contentious reactions to actions taken by such personnel, or whose business or professional practices have come under the scrutiny of such personnel. The Legislature further finds that the harm that may result from the release of such personal identifying and location information outweighs any public benefit that may be derived from the disclosure of the information.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 2, 2017.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 2, 2017.